



LUTON..0 BARNESLEY..2

Howard 7, Devaney 90



LUTON

DEAN KIELY	6/10
Couldn't do much about the goal and dealt well with Devaney's free-kicks	
CHRIS COYNE	4/10
Badly out of sorts and was well beaten for pace on more than one occasion	
LEON BARNETT	7/10
Unbeatable in the air and Luton's best player before being forced off	
SOL DAVIS	6/10
Covered across well from left-back but was substituted at half-time	
LEWIS EMANUEL	5/10
Unspectacular show in midfield in the first-half and defence after the break	
DEAN MORGAN	4/10
Woeful performance and didn't seem up for the fight	
KEITH KEANE	6/10
Solid showing but was nowhere to be seen for Barnsley's goal	
STEVE ROBINSON	6/10
Was better in the second half but his new white boots failed to inspire him	
RICHARD LANGLEY	6/10
Tried his best to lift the team from the centre of the park	
DAVID BELL	6/10
Moved to the right but wasn't able to show off his usual dribbling skills	
WARREN FEENEY	6/10
Unable to show what he could do before being forced off with injury	

SUBSTITUTES

BOYD - 5/10; FOR FEENEY (22)
BRKOVIC - 6/10; FOR DAVIS (46)
PERRETT - 6/10; FOR BARNETT (53)
NOT USED: BERESFORD; SPRING

STAR PLAYERS

LEON BARNETT

BRIAN HOWARD



STAR RATING **7**

STAR RATING **8**

BARNESLEY

NICK COLGAN	6/10
Relatively untroubled afternoon's work for the Barnsley stopper	
SAM TOGWELL	6/10
Quietly went about his business in the middle of the park	
PAUL REID	7/10
Typically committed display from the Tykes skipper	
ADAM ECKERSLEY	7/10
Neat and tidy on the ball and didn't given an inch when defending	
BOBBY HASSELL	7/10
Showed good hunger and desire to keep Emanuel and Brkovic quiet	
ANTONY KAY	6/10
Did what was required in the heart of the defence	
GRANT MCCANN	6/10
Broke things up in the midfield but appeared to tire as the game wore on	
MARTIN DEVANEY	6/10
Showed promise and delivered some dangerous free-kicks	
BRIAN HOWARD	8/10
Great running off the ball and bagged the all-important seventh-minute goal	
MARC RICHARDS	7/10
Caused the home defence problems with his physical presence	
DANIEL NARDIELLO	6/10
Drifted in and out but was still a threat and set up Howard's goal	

SUBSTITUTES

COULSON; FOR NARDIELLO (81)
REID; FOR RICHARDS (82)
NOT USED: LUCAS; ATKINSON; MATTIS

DEVANEY FINISHES OFF POOR LUTON

Newell's men look short on firepower

By BRIAN HOWARD

LUTON TOWN manager Mike Newell hinted that he could move into the transfer market after watching his side slip deeper into Championship relegation trouble with a horror show against lowly Barnsley.

Newell sold Rowan Vine to Birmingham City earlier this month for £2.5m and admitted that he may have to spend some of that money to strengthen his threadbare squad.

He said: "I don't worry about things, I just get on with it. We'll try to get another cutting edge to replace Vine, whether it's someone here or by bringing someone in."

"I'm in the position where I'm looking for strong characters at the moment. I do believe we've got them here, but if we haven't I'll have to bring them in."

A whimpering performance from Newell's men saw them fall behind to Brian Howard's early goal before Martin Devaney's last-minute strike sealed it for the visitors.

Lewis Emanuel's early blocked cross-shot and a hopeful 20-yarder from Marc Richards for Barnsley were the only moments of note before the Tykes took a shock early lead.

Luton fans have been used to Steve Howard banging in the goals at Kenilworth Road over the years, but it was a different Howard, Barnsley's Brian, who got the opener.

Both sides gave the ball away in the middle of the park before Devaney, Richards and Daniel Nardiello combined for the latter to deftly play in Howard.

The forward strode into the left-hand side of the penalty area and stroked home left-footed into the far corner from 15 yards.

With Luton seemingly unaware that the game had actually started, Barnsley came again as Nardiello profited from Chris Coyne's failure to control the ball.

He played the ball in behind for Richards to easily outstrip the Town skipper and fire in an angled 20-yard effort from the right that Dean Kiely dived to save.

Luton finally mustered an attack on the half-hour when Dean Morgan chested down Coyne's long ball, but he saw his shot blocked by visiting skipper Paul Reid.

And a minute later Town finally registered their first attempt on target of any nature when Richard Langley's optimistic 22-yard shot from the left corner of the penalty area was deflected into the arms of Nick Colgan.



FEET FIRST: Luton's Adam Boyd forces a save from Barnsley goalkeeper Nick Colgan

PICTURES: Andy Lister

Buoyed by that opening, Luton pressed again and, after Adam Eckersley fouled Adam Boyd on the edge of the area, Morgan curled his 20-yard free-kick into the side-netting.

Another free-kick offered Luton their next chance for a strike on goal five minutes before the break, but David Bell arrowed his 25-yard effort from Emanuel's touch just a yard too high of the target.

At the start of the second half, the visitors pressed forward with Nardiello feeding Howard to blaze an 18-yard shot high and wide of goal.

Barnsley began to drop deeper and deeper as they tried to cling on to their slender lead and Town began to boss possession, though without managing to create clear-cut openings.

Morgan flashed a 20-yard shot wide in the 55th minute, Langley hit a 20-yarder at Colgan a minute later and Boyd then tested the Irishman with a tame 15-yard effort just before the hour mark.

Luton kept plugging away and Steve Robinson almost found the net in the 70th minute when his stinging 20-yard drive was pushed aside by the diving Colgan.

As the groans grew in volume from the home fans, Town's ineptitude was summed up in the 79th minute when Langley blazed a 22-yard free-kick high and wide.

Barnsley sealed the win with a breakaway in the final minute when Sam Togwell crossed from the left for Devaney to take a touch before rifling home from a tight angle on the right of the penalty area.

MATCH STATS

LUTON v BARNESLEY

7	Shots on target	6
4	Shots off target	6
3	Corners	4
7	Offside	6
12	Fouls conceded	19
2	Yellow Cards	2
0	Red Cards	0
54	Possession %	46

Att: 7,441 Rating: ★★★★★
Ref: A Woolmer - 6/10



SLIDE RULE: Anthony Kay blocks Luton's Dean Morgan